

CHÚA NHẬT THỨ 4 MÙA PHỤC SINH NĂM C



MEMORY VERSE

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

Jn 10:27

HỌC THUỘC LÒNG

Chúa Giêsu nói: "Chiên của tôi thì nghe tiếng tôi; tôi biết chúng và chúng theo tôi."

Ga 10:27

FIRST READING
(Acts 13:14, 43-52)

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles:

Paul and Barnabas continued on from Perga and reached Antioch in Pisidia. On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and took their seats. Many Jews and worshipers who were converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them and urged them to remain faithful to the grace of God.

On the following sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said. Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said, "It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first, but since you reject it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life, we now turn to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, I have made you a light to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of salvation to the ends of the earth."

The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this and glorified the word of the Lord. All who were destined for eternal life came to believe, and the word of the Lord continued to spread through the whole region. The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who were worshipers and the leading men of the city, stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their territory. So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them, and went to Iconium. The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

BÀI ĐỌC I
(Cv 13:14, 43-52)

Trích Sách Tông Đồ Công Vụ:

Trong những ngày ấy, Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba rời Péc-gê tiếp tục đi An-ti-ô-khi-a miền Pi-xi-đi-a. Ngày sa-bát, hai ông vào hội đường ngồi tham dự. Có nhiều người Do Thái và nhiều người đạo theo, tức là những người tôn thờ Thiên Chúa, đi theo hai ông. Hai ông nói chuyện với họ và khuyên nhủ họ gắn bó với ơn Thiên Chúa.

Ngày sa-bát sau, gần như cả thành tụ họp nghe lời Thiên Chúa. Thấy những đám đông như vậy, người Do Thái sinh lòng ghen tức, họ phản đối những lời ông Phao-lô nói và nhục mạ ông. Bấy giờ ông Phao-lô và ông Ba-na-ba mạnh dạn lên tiếng: "Anh em phải là những người đầu tiên được nghe công bố lời Thiên Chúa, nhưng vì anh em khước từ lời ấy, và tự coi mình không xứng đáng hưởng sự sống đời đời, thì đây chúng tôi quay về phía dân ngoại. Vì Chúa truyền cho chúng tôi thế này: Ta sẽ đặt người làm ánh sáng muôn dân, để người đem ơn cứu độ đến tận cùng cõi đất."

Nghe thế, dân ngoại vui mừng tôn vinh lời Chúa, và tất cả những người đã được Thiên Chúa định cho hưởng sự sống đời đời, đều tin theo. Lời Chúa lan tràn khắp miền ấy. Nhưng người Do Thái sách động nhóm phụ nữ hợm trong thành, xúi giục họ ngược đãi ông Phao-lô và ông Ba-na-ba, và trục xuất hai ông ra khỏi lãnh thổ của họ. Hai ông liền giũ bụi chân phản đối họ và đi tới I-cô-ni-ô. Còn các môn đệ được tràn đầy hoan lạc và Thánh Thần.

Đó là Lời Chúa.

SECOND READING
(Rev 7:9, 14b-17)

A Reading from the Book of Revelation:

I, John, had a vision of a great multitude, which no one could count, from every nation, race, people, and tongue. They stood before the throne and before the Lamb, wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders said to me, "These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they stand before God's throne and worship him day and night in his temple. The one who sits on the throne will shelter them. They will not hunger or thirst anymore, nor will the sun or any heat strike them. For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to springs of life-giving water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The Word of the Lord.

BÀI ĐỌC II
(Kh 7:9, 14b-17)

Trích Sách Khải Huyền của Thánh Gio-an:

Tôi là Gio-an, đã thấy một đoàn người thật đông không tài nào đếm nổi, thuộc mọi dân, mọi chi tộc, mọi nước và mọi ngôn ngữ. Họ đứng trước ngai và trước Con Chiên, mình mặc áo trắng, tay cầm nhánh lá thiên tuế.

Và một bô lão đã bảo tôi: "Họ là những người đã đến, sau khi trải qua cơn thử thách lớn lao. Họ đã giặt sạch và tẩy trắng áo mình trong máu Con Chiên. Vì thế, họ được chầu trước ngai Thiên Chúa, đêm ngày thờ phượng trong Đền Thờ của Người; Đấng ngự trên ngai sẽ căng lều của Người cho họ trú ẩn. Họ sẽ không còn phải đói, phải khát, không còn bị ánh nắng mặt trời thiêu đốt và khí nóng hành hạ nữa. Vì Con Chiên đang ngự ở giữa ngai sẽ chặn dất và dẫn đưa họ tới nguồn nước trường sinh. Và Thiên Chúa sẽ lau sạch nước mắt họ."

Đó là Lời Chúa.

GOSPEL
(Jn 10:27-30)

The Gospel According to St. John:

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

The Word of the Lord.

PHÚC ÂM
(Ga 10:27-30)

Tin Mừng Chúa Giêsu theo Thánh Gio-an:

Chúa Giêsu nói: "Chiên của tôi thì nghe tiếng tôi; tôi biết chúng và chúng theo tôi. Tôi ban cho chúng sự sống đời đời; không bao giờ chúng phải diệt vong và không ai cướp được chúng khỏi tay tôi. Cha tôi, Đấng đã ban chúng cho tôi, thì lớn hơn tất cả, và không ai cướp được chúng khỏi tay Chúa Cha. Tôi và Chúa Cha là một."

Đó là Lời Chúa.

Fill in the BLANK

1. Paul and Barnabas said: "It was necessary that _____ be spoken to you first, but since you _____ it and condemn yourselves as unworthy of _____, we now turn to the Gentiles."
2. Paul said to the Jews: "The Lord has commanded us, I have made you a _____ to the Gentiles, that you may be an instrument of _____ to _____ of the earth."

TRUE OR FALSE

3. When the Jews saw the whole city gathered to hear Paul and Barnabas spoke the word of the Lord, they were filled with joy. TRUE
 FALSE
4. Paul and Barnabas shook the dust from their feet in protest against the Jews because they rejected the word of God. TRUE
 FALSE

UNDERLINE the correct answer(s)

5. What did the Jews do when they saw too many people listened to Paul and Barnabas?
A. They arrested and imprisoned Paul and Barnabas.
B. They incited the women of prominence and stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas.
C. They encouraged people to follow Paul and Barnabas.
6. What did Paul and Barnabas do when they were rejected and persecuted?
A. They shook the dust from their feet in protest against them and went to another town.
B. They forgave and prayed for them.
C. They called down the fire from heaven to burn them up.

Điền vào chỗ TRỐNG

1. Ông Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba nói: “Anh em phải là những người đầu tiên được nghe công bố _____, nhưng vì anh em _____ lời ấy, và tự coi mình không xứng đáng hưởng _____, thì đây chúng tôi quay về phía dân ngoại.”
2. Ông Phao-lô nói với người Do Thái: “Thiên Chúa truyền cho chúng tôi thế này: Ta sẽ đặt người làm _____ muôn dân, để người đem _____ đến _____ cõi đất.”

ĐÚNG HAY SAI

3. Khi người Do Thái thấy gần như cả thành tụ họp nghe ông Phao-lô và ông Ba-na-ba rao giảng lời Thiên Chúa, lòng họ tràn ngập vui sướng.
4. Ông Phao-lô và ông Ba-na-ba giữ bụi chân phản đối những người Do Thái bởi vì họ đã khước từ không chịu đón nhận Lời Thiên Chúa.

ĐÚNG
 SAI

ĐÚNG
 SAI

GẠCH DƯỚI câu trả lời đúng:

5. Người Do Thái đã làm gì khi thấy quá nhiều người nghe theo lời rao giảng của ông Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba?
- A. Họ đã bắt giữ và tống ngục hai ông Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba.
B. Họ đã xúi dục nhóm phụ nữ thượng lưu sách động một cuộc bách hại chống lại hai ông Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba.
C. Họ khuyến khích người ta đi theo hai ông Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba.
6. Hai ông Phao-lô và Ba-na-ba đã làm gì khi thấy những người Do Thái chống đối và bách hại các ngài?
- A. Các ngài giữ bụi chân phản đối họ và đi qua thành khác.
B. Các ngài đã tha thứ và cầu nguyện cho họ.
C. Các ngài đã xin lửa từ trời xuống để thiêu hủy họ.

Word SEARCH



MEMORY VERSE

Jesus said: "My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me."

Jn 10:27

HỌC THUỘC LÒNG

Chúa Giêsu nói: "Chiên của tôi thì nghe tiếng tôi; tôi biết chúng và chúng theo tôi."

Ga 10:27

O E L N W T A A G H A N D E L
S H E G E T L I F E P L O G F
I A O G R K L I F A T H E R O
W S E R O N E I J R P O N E L
S O O N V O I C E T E R N A L
O E I A S W N H S D R E E T O
S A O N L C L A U D I E S E W
E L F L L A C K S O S I R R A
E E E A F D E L R H H O E I K
G A L O L O N G I V E N N F H
S P I L A A E E N E E O L A V
N S L L L T E E I O P N F R E
F G R T J A L L H E S E E L E
S E P R V H F E N K L G C J N
L F S G H S A E O E F N E L L

KEY WORDS

JESUS
VOICE
ETERNAL
HAND
GREATER

SHEEP
KNOW
LIFE
FATHER
ALL

HEAR
FOLLOW
PERISH
GIVEN
ONE

REFLECTIONS

FIRST READING

Today's reading allows us to share one of Paul's great victories on his first missionary journey. It is the Sabbath, and Paul goes to the local synagogue with his companion Barnabas. The city's large colony of Jews has gathered there to hear Paul's message. He proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ so well that many are converted on the spot. The word spreads rapidly and by the following Sabbath the entire city, Jew and Gentile alike, turns out to hear Paul.

When are you open to new ideas? Why?

Some of the leaders of the synagogue do not approve of including Gentiles in their midst. They expel Paul and Barnabas. Paul quotes Isaiah ("I have made you a light to the Gentiles") to show that Jesus will be recognized as Savior of the whole world. Not only the Jews, but the Gentiles as well prove Paul right by gladly accepting Jesus as their Lord.

Sometimes the way we interpret the Scriptures sets up a false tension between the covenant God made with his chosen people, the Jews, and the new covenant he made with us in Jesus. God's covenant with the Jews, the covenant he made with Abraham and Moses, is forever. The Jews are still his chosen people. He will never take back his love for them. The covenant God made with us, the Gentiles, in Jesus, is also forever. In Jesus, God opened up his love to us and brought us the new message of eternal life. God's love is for everyone, Jew and Gentile alike. We all belong to God!

Paul and Barnabas were Jews. They were very devout and religious Jews, and it was natural for them, after they discovered Jesus and his message, to share that message with those who shared their belief in God. For the Jews who accepted Jesus and his message, this meant a change. Why do you think the Jewish leaders of the synagogue resisted Paul and Barnabas? When do you resist a new idea? Why?

Because of this resistance, Paul and Barnabas begin their mission to the non-Jews, the Gentiles who were pagans. These were people who, if they believed at all, believed in pagan gods and goddesses. Why do you think they were open to the message that Paul and Barnabas brought to them? When are you open to new ideas? Why?

SECOND READING

In this vision from Revelation, huge crowds of faithful believers from every nation gather before God's throne. To Christians who are suffering persecution, this vision is comforting. They need to know that their suffering will be rewarded by Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. When the end comes, he will be there to shepherd and protect them. He "will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Do the long white robes and the palm branches remind you of anything? The newly baptized at the Easter Vigil are given a white garment to wear. Newly baptized infants wear baptismal gowns that are white. White is the color of victory. It is the color of resurrection! The palm branches are symbols of victory, too. When do we carry palm branches in our liturgy?

This reading calls Jesus, "the Lamb." When do we pray to the Lamb of God in the liturgy? What do we ask for in that prayer? Jesus is the lamb who sacrificed himself for us. Why do you think we pray this litany just before receiving Holy Communion? (When you think of "Lamb," think also of the Shepherd who feeds his flock.)

This reading puts three images together into one when it says, "the Lamb on the throne will shepherd them." The three images are: the Lamb who was slain, now victorious on the throne (the king), and the shepherd who will care for his flock.

When do we pray to the Lamb of God in the liturgy? What do we ask for in that prayer?

Pray this prayer together: Jesus, you are Lamb, Shepherd, and King. Help us to follow you, no matter how dark or painful the journey becomes. Help us to believe that you are always with us, ready to wipe away our tears. We ask this in your name, Lord Jesus. Amen.

GOSPEL

The words Jesus speaks in this reading were directed to some Jewish leaders who wanted to trip him up. They were hoping he would call himself the Messiah. Instead, Jesus refers to himself as "the Good Shepherd." He describes the secure and lasting relationship he has with his sheep, those who truly hear him and believe. Just as no one can separate Jesus and his Father, no one can take Jesus' disciples away from him.

What can you do this week to show that you have truly heard the Good Shepherd's voice?

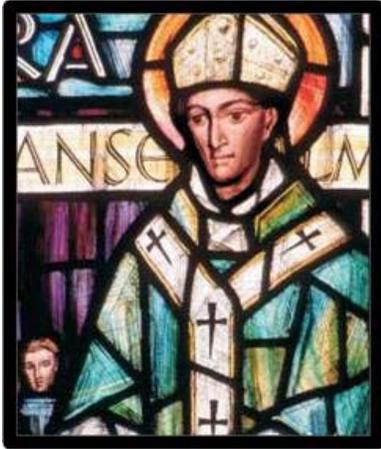
Did you know that the brain capacity of the average dog is about the same as that of a three-year-old child? This means that dogs can understand quite a lot! It also means that there is still a lot that they cannot understand. They do not understand traffic lights, or what makes chicken bones or rat poison bad to eat.

This is why it is up to us to keep our dogs out of danger. We often use our voices to do this: "Come! Heel! Sit! Down!" This is what a good shepherd does for sheep. Just as a dog recognizes its owner's voice, sheep recognize the shepherd's voice. We, as the flock of Jesus, hear and recognize Jesus' voice. When do we hear his voice? How do we recognize it?

What can you do this week to show that you have truly heard the Good Shepherd's voice?

St. Anselm

Apr. 21st



Anselm was born at Aosta, Piedmont in Italy to wealthy parents. He could see the Alpine Mountains from his home. As a child he was taught how to be holy and study well. When he was fifteen, Anselm tried to join a monastery in Italy but his father would not let him.

Then Anselm became sick. Soon after he got better, his mother died. He was still young and rich and clever and began to think only of having good times. He had forgotten God. But soon Anselm became bored and wanted something better, something more important.

He argued with his father and ran away to France. There he visited the holy Abbot Lanfranc of the famous monastery of Bec. Anselm became Lanfranc's very close friend and the abbot brought him to God. Then at the age of twenty-seven, Anselm decided to become a Benedictine monk.

Anselm was a warm-hearted man who loved his brother monks dearly. Even those who first disliked him soon became his friends. When he was forty-five years old he was made the abbot of Bec.

He finally had to leave Bec to become archbishop of Canterbury in England, but he told the monks that they would always live in his heart. The people of England loved and respected Anselm. But King William II treated him badly.

Anselm had to leave the country and flee into exile in 1097 and again in 1103. King William even refused to let Anselm go to Rome to see the pope for advice. But Anselm went anyway. He stayed with the pope until the king died. Then he went back to his parish in England.

Even though he had many duties that kept him very busy, St. Anselm always found time to write important books of philosophy and theology. He also wrote down the many wonderful instructions he had given the monks about God.

They were very happy about that. He used to say: "Would you like to know the secret of being happy in the monastery? Forget the world and be happy to forget it. The monastery is a real heaven on earth for those who live only for Jesus."

St. Anselm died on April 21, 1109. He was declared a great teacher or Doctor of the Church.